

FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE
KEY WEST BUREAU



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MFL-7011
3 February 1987

MEMORANDUM TO: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT: Monthly Report--Key West Bureau--January 1987

I. GENERAL

We were all saddened to hear at the end of the month that [] our chief teletypist, had died of a heart attack. His many colleagues, both past and present, will miss a good friend and strong right arm at the bureau.

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II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

The only feature slightly unusual about Fidel's many speeches this month was that he was able to speak to such a variety of groups. Ranging from local Havana party members, to Cuban and Latin American university students, to trade union members, to planning front delegates, to Contadora Group representatives, Castro discussed politics, economics, industry, education, journalism, irrigation, rice, beans, and even his favorite brand of pineapples. Sharing a little bit of the limelight with papa, even Fidel Jr popped up in the media this month, a rare mention for the son who is director of the Cuban Commission on Nuclear Energy.

The unusual highlight of our TV coverage included footage of the Cuban Interior Minister posthumously restoring the public image of a counterintelligence member who died in 1983 "while fulfilling his mission within enemy ranks."

With regard to TV coverage, MOD asked us to resume daily mailing of the main evening Havana TV cast. Earlier, we were told our Cities Project had been axed, due to lack of consumer interest.

We shifted coverage of our Caribbean newspapers to ELAAD until we can get back up to strength in our monitoring staff. Our subscriptions will continue, however, so we can jump back into the newspaper business in event of an emergency.

Our hard working monitors (all three of them) took justifiable pride in some well-deserved praise from AG and the DRD for their "professionalism and dedication" in handling the last leg of the Cuban Party Congress in December.

The bureau's legal eagles welcomed two thorough and impressive glossaries of legal terms and hard-to-translate words compiled by our companeros in Paraguay Bureau.

B. Communications

Headquarters breathed some new life into our long-delayed new 300-Baud communications system this month. [redacted] a GE STAT contractor working with ADD, visited the bureau on 12-13 January to get a first-hand impression of our line and equipment needs. We now hope to have the line between us and the Miami switch operational and the necessary new equipment in place and running sometime in March if the Lockheed team can squeeze us into their tight schedule.

C. Technical

The long wait that began last July for permission to put up a remote antenna on Boca Chica, about 10 miles from the bureau on the Naval Air Station, paid off this month when we finally received the final navy OK for the project. Even with this formal permission, however, we could not spring forward as quickly as we had wished due to some unexpected delays at Dynalectron, our contractor who is to install the "turn-key" operation. We now hope to be up and tuned in by mid-February.

The bureau's primary Beverage antenna oriented on Hispaniola and eastern Cuba had to be disconnected at mid-month to save our wire from the bulldozers and work crews scurrying about putting up a new fence at the Naval Security Group Activity compound next door. Although we were able to get this antenna out of their way, we were not as fortunate with our other Beverage that reaches to the geographical southernmost point of the U.S. Unfortunately, the Fence Master crew ended up snapping it when an overly zealous auger operator sent it whipping into the ocean. Much to everybody's surprise, the contractor acknowledged responsibility and promised to pay, a very non-Key West thing to do.

Bureau engineer [redacted] modified our Yagi TV antenna array so we can now successfully block out most of the interference from a powerful Tampa station. As a result, reception of Cuban TV on Channel 13 has now improved somewhat. STAT

[] also contributed his part by confirming television STAT patterns for the Tele Rebelde and Television Cubana networks, especially since Fidel had announced earlier that he was cutting back on air time to save money. We will now continue to match up the broadcast schedules with what we actually see to determine the extent of the cutbacks.

D. Cruising

More than a few hours were spent on several occasions trying to listen to Radio Marti's futile (so far) attempts to broadcast from its "temporary" relocation site at Saddlebush Key, about 15 miles north of the bureau and 35 miles south of the regular site at Marathon. One technical problem after another ranging from overloads to blown fuses to melted wires prevented them from going on the air. We now hope to pick them up in February long enough to measure the extent of their interference on some of the stations we normally monitor.

Our first proper FM antenna, which now sits high enough above our Yagi array not to interfere with TV reception, has given us a new ear into Havana. In addition to letting us listen to several FM broadcasts not heard before, we now have a more reliable means to monitor and measure Cuban FM transmitters in general.

IV. VISITORS

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|---------|-----|--|------|
| 1. | [] | C/Admin Staff, 2-3 January. | STAT |
| 2. | [] | C/Analysis Group, 9-12 January, on private | |
| travel. | | | |
| 3. | [] | GE contractor, 12-13 January. | STAT |
| 4. | [] | Wire Services Staff, 11-15 January, on private | STAT |
| travel. | | | |
| 5. | [] | DRD editors, 19 January, on private | STAT |
| travel. | | | |
| 6. | [] | Spanish monitorial candidate, 29-31 January. | STAT |

V. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

The bureau chief and wife attended a reception on 9 January given by Captain Sullivan, commanding officer of the Naval Air Station, at his home to welcome Commander H. Wong, the new base executive officer.

VI. FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH DEPARTMENT

A 'thighbone'?

A jogging Georgian discovered a strange something just off the beaten path beside South Roosevelt Boulevard Friday afternoon.

The 53-year-old Georgia resident called police to the scene to pick up a bone Ptl. Marisela Kelly reported "appears to be a human femur."

The visitor said he noticed it in a grassy area while jogging along the "Bridle Path" around 4 p.m. Friday.

As no one had filed a "missing thighbone" report in Key West that evening, the bone -- and the mystery of its appearance on the Bridle Path -- were reportedly turned over to Det. Earl McCain for further investigation.



Chief, Key West Bureau

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Attachment:

Nonexpendable Property Report
Production Report

cc: C/Panama, C/Paraguay Bureau

KEY WEST BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR JANUARY 1987

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH: 136,670

TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH : 33,050

TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH : 218

	BROADCAST	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLICATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:	2,575	14,700	21
(PUBLISHABLE WORDS PER WEEK	MIN	MIN	ISSUES

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:
(PUBLISHABLE WORDS PER MONTH)

BAHAMAS

Nassau Domestic Service in English	<u>1,200</u>	
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Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English		<u>-0-</u>
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BARBADOS

Bridgetown CANA in English		<u>32,390</u>
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Bridgetown ADVOCATE in English		<u>-0-</u>
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Bridgetown SUNDAY ADVOCATE in English		<u>-0-</u>
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BELIZE

Belize City Domestic Service in English	<u>810</u>	
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Belize Times in English		<u>940</u>
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CUBA

Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish	<u>5,050</u>	
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Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish	<u>9,610</u>	
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Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish	<u>2,040</u>	
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Havana Radio Periodico Del Aire in Spanish	<u>-0-</u>	
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KEY WEST BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR JANUARY 1987

CUBA

Havana Domestic Service in Spanish	<u>220</u>
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Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish	<u>38,680</u>
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Havana Television Cubana Network in Spanish	<u>3,110</u>
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Havana Television Service in Spanish	<u>18,030</u>
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DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Santo Domingo Cadena Brea Pena in Spanish	<u>580</u>
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Santo Domingo Radio Antillas Network in Spanish	<u>-0-</u>
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Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish	<u>50</u>
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JAMAICA

Kingston Domestic Service in English	<u>1,210</u>
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Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English	<u>-0-</u>
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Kingston SUNDAY GLEANER in English	<u>-0-</u>
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MEXICO

Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish	<u>15,040</u>
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NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

Bonaire Trans World Radio in English	<u>1,710</u>
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THE NETHERLANDS

Hilversum International in English	<u>-0-</u>
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SURINAME

Paramaribo International Service in English	<u>6,000</u>
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OTHER SOURCES: None